scientific community and has been before thousands of amateur and professional naturalists since the publication of the field guide (mentioned above) in 1985. Adoption of the name *fasciolatus* would reduce taxonomic stability because the name is completely unfamiliar to the herpetological community, and because the name *vestigium* will continue to be associated with its use in the (1985) Peterson field guide and in the (1966) primary monographic work on the CROTOPHYTIDAE.

The intention of the Code is to maximize stability and promote the utility of our taxonomies (and not to reward or punish our colleagues, as suggested by Savage), and conservation of the name *vestigium* is appropriate. Therefore I request that the Commission suppress the name *fasciolatus* in favor of *vestigium*, as sought in my application.

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I wish to support the conservation of the name *Crotaphytus vestigium* Smith & Tanner, 1972, a junior subjective synonym of *C. fasciolatus* Mocquard, 1903, as proposed by J.A. McGuire. The species is well known to naturalists in southern California and throughout most of the Mexican peninsula of Baja California. The name has been used in numerous publications, including R.C. Stebbins' (1985) *Field guide to western reptiles and amphibians*, which has been in the hands of students, teachers and amateur naturalists for the past 15 years. It has also been used in the 1995 reprint of H.M. Smith's (1946) *Handbook of lizards*.

It is the function of the Code to maximize nomenclatural stability and to minimize the effort required for information retrieval, and the conservation of the name *Crotaphytus vestigium* is therefore appropriate. I request that the Commission use its plenary power to approve Dr McGuire's proposal.

**Comments on the proposed designation of neotypes for the nominal species
Vespertilio pipistrellus Schreber, 1774 and *V. pygmaeus* Leach, 1825 (currently
Pipistrellus pipistrellus and *P. pygmaeus*; Mammalia, Chiroptera)**
(Case 3073; see BZN **56**: 182–186; **57**: 49–50, 113–116)

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Otto von Halversen and his co-workers are pressing for the adoption of the name *Pipistrellus mediterraneus* Cabrera, 1904, described from Valencia, Spain, for the 55 kHz phonic type of pipistrelle bat (BZN **57**: 113–115), even though *P. pygmaeus* (Leach, 1825) is now being widely used.

I should like to bring to the attention of workers the following issues.

1. There is still no definite morphological criterion available that will unambiguously separate the two cryptic species. The phalanx ratio cited as being 'distinctive' by Helversen et al. (BZN **57**: 114, para. 3(b)) actually shows overlap between the two species (G. Jones, unpublished).

2. Both species are found in Spain (albeit the 55 kHz phonic type is more abundant), so it not absolutely certain that Cabrera's (1904) description of *P. mediterraneus* referred to a 55 kHz bat (although it probably did).

3. In relation to *Pipistrellus pipistrellus*, Helversen et al. (BZN **57**: 114, para. 2) noted that 'Schreber's description was based on the observations of Daubenton (1759) who lived in Montbart in France, a region where the 45 kHZ phonic type is much more common than the 55 kHz one'. In fact, Schreber (1774, pp. 167–168) referred to the previous publications of Buffon (1760) and Pennant (1771), as well as Daubenton (1759) (para. 1 of the application), and recorded the occurrence of the species in Germany: (in translation) 'In Germany it appears to be scarce and it is native in local areas and regions'.

4. The name *P. pygmaeus* is used in recent and ongoing publications. These include Häussler et al. (1999) *Myotis*, **37**: 27–40; Braun & Häussler (1999) *Carolinea*, **57**: 111–120; Russo & Jones (2000) *Mammalia*, **64**: 187–197; Parsons & Jones (2000) *Journal of Experimental Biology*, **203**: 2641–2656. The name is also being used in the new Dutch translation of Schober & Grimmberger's *A guide to the bats of Britain and Europe* (translated by P. Lina), in the *New handbook of British mammals* (edited by S. Harris), and is listed in the Annex of Accepted Names for the European Bat Agreement. The name *P. pygmaeus* has also been used in many popular articles and in conference abstracts.

Adoption of the name *Pipistrellus mediterraneus* at this stage for the 55 kHz phonic type of pipistrelle would create considerable confusion.

Comment on the proposed conservation of LORISIDAE Gray, 1821 and GALAGIDAE Gray, 1825 (Mammalia, Primates) as the correct original spellings
(Case 3004; see BZN **55**: 165–168; **56**: 73; **57**: 51, 121–123, 228–231)

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I write in support of the proposal by Schwartz et al. (BZN **55**: 165–168, September 1998) to conserve the family-group names LORISIDAE and GALAGIDAE as the correct original spellings, although J.E. Gray (1821, 1825) established them in the forms LORIDAE and GALAGONINA respectively. The matter at issue is the stems for the genera *Loris* and *Galago*: whether the widespread 'Loris-' and 'Galag-' or Gray's 'Lor-' and 'Galagon-'.

Before Jenkins (1987) considered that the stems 'Lor-' and 'Galagon-' and resultant family-group spellings should be reinstated under the provisions of the 3rd edition of the Code, almost all authors had used the modified forms first published by Flower & Lydekker (1891) and later popularized by Gregory (1915). Schwartz et al.'s proposal was supported by Yalden (BZN **56**: 73) but rejected by Groves & Jenkins (BZN **57**: 51), whose argument was in turn opposed by Schwartz et al. (BZN **57**: 121–122). In the latest comment on this case, Mowbray et al. (BZN **57**: 228–231) have further responded to Groves & Jenkins and formally raised the issue of the